

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Complete Listing of All Claims and Their Status

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

1 (currently amended): A hand-operated jointed control lever assembly comprising:

(a) a lever body mounted for pivoting movement about an axis from a released position to an actuated position; said lever body having a rearward first fulcrum surface and a rearwardly-extending lip proximate said first fulcrum surface;

(b) a lever arm having a forward edge portion and a second fulcrum surface proximate said forward edge portion, said first fulcrum surface and said second fulcrum surface being adapted for mating engagement without a pivot axle joining said lever arm to said lever body when said forward edge portion is engaged under said lip; and

(c) tensioning means for applying a contraction force between said first fulcrum surface and said second fulcrum surface that biases said first and second fulcrum surfaces into mating engagement.

2 (original): The control lever assembly as recited in claim 1, in which said first and second fulcrum surfaces are arcuate.

3 (original): The control lever assembly as recited in claim 2, in which said first and second fulcrum surfaces are respectively cylindrically concave and convex.

1 4 (original): The control lever assembly as recited in claim 1, in which said
2 tensioning means comprises:

3 (a) a tensioning cable passing through said first and said second fulcrum surfaces,
4 said tensioning cable having a first end and a second end, said first end being
5 secured to said lever arm; and

6 (b) a tensioning spring interposed between said second end of said tensioning cable
7 and said lever body.

1 5 (original): The control lever assembly as recited in claim 4, in which said
2 tensioning spring is a compression coil spring disposed within a cavity formed within said
3 lever body, and said tensioning cable passes axially through said coil spring.

1 6 (currently amended): A hand-operated jointed control lever assembly, said
2 assembly comprising:

3 (a) a lever body mounted for pivoting movement about an axis from a released
4 position to an actuated position; said lever body having a rearward first fulcrum
5 surface and a rearwardly-extending lip proximate said first fulcrum surface;

6 (b) a lever arm having a forward edge portion and a second fulcrum surface
7 proximate said forward edge portion, said first fulcrum surface and said second
8 fulcrum surface being adapted for mating engagement without a pivot axle
9 joining said lever arm to said lever body when said forward edge portion is
10 engaged under said lip; said first and second fulcrum surfaces being respectively
11 cylindrically concave and convex;

12 (c) a tensioning cable passing through said first and said second fulcrum surfaces,
13 said tensioning cable having a first end and a second end, said first end being
14 secured to said lever arm; and

15 (d) a tensioning spring interposed between said second end of said tensioning cable
16 and said lever body.

1 7 (original): The control lever assembly as recited in claim 6, in which said
2 tensioning spring is a compression coil spring disposed within a cavity formed within said
3 lever body, and said tensioning cable passes axially through said coil spring.